

In the Claims

1. – 20. (cancelled)

21. (New) A method of treating an ischemic region of a patient, comprising creating a concentration gradient of an angiogenesis stimulating substance in the ischemic region and/or in tissue of a region adjacent the ischemic region.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the tissue of the region adjacent the ischemic region is non-ischemic.

23. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the concentration of the angiogenesis stimulating substance is highest at about the center of the ischemic region.

24. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the concentration of the angiogenesis stimulating substance is higher in the ischemic region than in the tissue of the region adjacent the ischemic region.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the tissue of the region adjacent the ischemic region is less ischemic than the tissue of the ischemic region.

26. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the tissue of the region adjacent the ischemic region is non-ischemic.

27. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the concentration of the angiogenesis stimulating substance is lower in the ischemic region than in the tissue of the region adjacent the ischemic region.

28. (New) A method of treating a region of ischemic tissue in a patient, comprising triggering the release of angiogenesis stimulating substances to create a concentration gradient of the angiogenesis stimulating substances in the region of ischemic tissue and/or in tissue of a region adjacent the region of ischemic tissue.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the angiogenesis stimulating substances are released by the region of ischemic tissue.

30. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the angiogenesis stimulating substances are released by the tissue of the region adjacent to the region of ischemic tissue.

31. (New) A method of treating ischemic myocardial tissue of a patient, comprising:
inserting into the patient a catheter having a tissue stimulating device;
positioning the tissue stimulating device on or near the ischemic myocardial tissue;
and
stimulating the ischemic myocardial tissue and/or myocardial tissue near the ischemic myocardial tissue without piercing or cutting the myocardial tissue to trigger the release of an angiogenic factor.


32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the stimulation creates a concentration gradient of the angiogenic factor.
33. (New) A method of claim 55, further comprising:
repositioning the tissue stimulating device; and
stimulating the ischemic myocardial tissue and/or myocardial tissue near the ischemic myocardial tissue without piercing or cutting the myocardial tissue to trigger the additional release of the angiogenic factor.
34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the stimulation creates a concentration gradient of the angiogenic factor.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (415) 954-0323.

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Respectfully submitted,


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